



Thomas E. White became the 18th secretary of the Army on May 31.

Washington, D.C.

Thomas E. White Is New Secretary of the Army

THOMAS E. White was sworn in as the 18th secretary of the Army May 31.

White told the Senate Armed Services Committee at his confirmation hearing that the four objectives he will pursue as secretary are: to invest in people, to assure readiness, to transform the entire Army and to adopt sound business practices.

The secretary of the Army is the Army's senior civilian, responsible by statute for all matters relating to manpower, personnel, reserve affairs, installations, environmental issues, weapons systems and equipment acquisition, communications, and financial management.

The secretary leads a work force of some one million active duty, National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers and 225,000 civilian employees.

White graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1967. He served two tours in Vietnam and as commander, 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment; commander, 11th Armd. Cav. Regt., V Corps; and executive assistant to the chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. He retired from the Army in 1990 with the rank of brigadier general.

Before his appointment, White was the vice chairman of Enron Energy Services, the Enron corporation subsidiary responsible for providing energy outsource solutions to commercial and industrial customers throughout the United States. — *Department of Defense Public Affairs*

Washington

DOD Seeks JROTC Instructors

UNCLE Sam needs you. Again. This time, he's seeking military men and women to instruct high school Junior ROTC students.

The Department of Defense needs retired military officers and NCOs to teach citizenship

and leadership, while instilling self-esteem, teamwork and discipline. Pentagon officials say there will be about 1,200 openings over the next three years.

By fiscal 2005, the program will employ about 7,000 instructors, according to Navy Cmdr. Yvette Brown-Wahler, director for JROTC in DOD's Accession Policy Office at the Pentagon. In the next few years the ser-

Personnel Update

More Installations to Issue New ID Card

FOLLOWING more than six months of testing at several Department of Defense locations, including four Army installations, the new Common Access Card has expanded to more posts.

These Army installations and organizations began issuing the CAC starting in May: Fort Monmouth, N.J.; Fort Meade, Md.; Somerset-National Guard, N.J.; Tobyhanna, Pa.; 352nd Civil Affairs Command-Reserve, Md.; Fort Hamilton, N.Y.; Fort Detrick, Md.; and Fort Myer, Va.

Capitalizing on what Army officials call "smart card" technology, the CAC will eventually replace the standard military identification card, DD Form 2, for active-duty and selected reserve-component service members, DOD civilians and some contractors across all services. Retirees and military family members will continue to use DD Forms 2, 1173 or 1173-1, as appropriate.

In addition to the privileges and access the DD Form 2 currently permits, such as entrance to the commissary, post exchange, morale, welfare and recreation facilities and military medical services, the CAC will allow users to log onto DOD computer networks and systems, and digitally sign and encrypt e-mail messages. In the future the CAC will allow keyless entry into certain DOD buildings and controlled spaces, program officials said.

The white plastic CAC uses an embedded 32-kilobyte integrated circuit chip, magnetic strip and two bar codes to store user information.

Fielding the CAC to the Army test sites — Fort Eustis, Va.; Heidelberg and Mannheim, Germany; and Yongson, Korea — has not been without its challenges. One of the biggest problems has been the lack of recognition of the card as a valid military ID, officials said.

Fielding of the CAC to all Army installations will continue through July 2002.

For information about the CAC, visit the Army Electronic Commerce home page at <http://armyec.army.mil>. — ARNEWS

vices could struggle to find qualified instructors to fill new vacancies created by the expansion of the JROTC program, she said.

JROTC offers students an alternative lifestyle, Brown-Wahler said.

"Parents will come up and say to us: 'This program changed my daughter's life. She was into drugs and alcohol, probably on her way to jail. In one year, her whole life has turned around.'"

Opening JROTC units in inner-city and rural schools is often difficult, because it's hard to find instructors willing to work in them, she noted. DOD has launched legislative initiatives to provide monetary bonuses to attract instructors for those difficult areas.

JROTC gives high school students "something to look forward to, to look up to and to work toward," Brown-Wahler stressed. The program aims to make high school students bet-

ter citizens and give them a sense of belonging and self-discipline.

Retired active-duty officers and enlisted personnel are eligible to apply, she said. There are no age limits. Processing time can take up to a year, but people may apply while they are still on active duty.

"The service secretaries can hire O-4s to O-10s and E-6s to E-9s," Brown-Wahler said. "Sometimes they take retired E-5s. I've met some instructors who have been doing this for 20 years."

Each service has about a 7- to 10-day instructor training program, and individual school districts hire instructors according to local needs.

Once hired, instructors continue to receive their military retired pay. The service branch and school district then split the difference that returns the instructors' pay to active-duty levels.

For more information on JROTC instructor opportunities, go to the DOD website at www.dodtransportal.org. Then go to Internet Career Links and to Specialized Job Search Links, where the four service branches are listed. Or, go to the service websites and type in "JROTC" as the search word.

— AFPS

Washington

Army Gets a New Website

USER input steered the redesign of the Army website that went online on the Army's 226th birthday, June 14.

"Many of our changes to the site are based on feedback from viewers," said MAJ Chris Conway of the Army Chief of Staff's Office.

The new Army Homepage, www.army.mil, includes eye-catching graphics and improved navigation features that speed viewers to needed information, Conway said.

The services on the site help to keep members of the Army community informed of the latest news, benefits, and opportunities; promote recruiting and retention; and inform the public on Army matters.

Other Army websites include Army Knowledge Online, at www.us.army.mil, and an Army recruiting site at www.goarmy.com. AKO, an intranet site available to all Army members (active, National Guard and Reserve, DA civilians and retirees), features the latest Army news, knowledge centers, a lifetime e-mail account and a powerful search engine. — ARNEWS

Veterans News

VA Updates Health, Education Programs

THE Department of Veterans Affairs will open two new centers that will specialize in studying the treatment of war-related illnesses among military patients and veterans.

The first sites will be located at Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers in Washington, D.C., and East Orange, N.J., said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi.

"We've learned that combat casualties do not always result in visible wounds," Principi said. "Inevitably, some veterans return with health problems that, while difficult to diagnose, are no less debilitating."

The Centers for the Study of War-Related Illnesses will develop ways to minimize illness and injury that can be implemented before, during and after future conflicts and peacekeeping missions. Additionally, the centers will explore ways to improve care for active-duty patients and veterans.

On the education front, veterans taking tests required for certification or licensing in an occupation may be able to use their VA education benefits to cover test fees.

Veterans benefits already cover many of the courses needed for occupational licensing. The new benefit, made possible by a recent change in law, allows the VA to pay for such things as a state bar examination required to practice law or a plumber's license qualification test.

Veterans may be reimbursed for examination costs, up to \$2,000 per test. Participants must be eligible for the Montgomery GI Bill or the Veterans' Educational Assistance Program. The benefit is also available to survivors of veterans who qualify for the Dependents Educational Assistance program.

For more information about test reimbursement go to VA's website at www.gibill.va.gov. — Department of Veterans Affairs Public Affairs Office



User input resulted in an upgraded version of the Army Homepage on June 14, the Army's birthday.

Harriet Rice



PFC Shawanda Thompson from Fort Eustis, Va., leaps across the stage during the 2001 Soldier Show opening production.

Alexandria, Va.

Soldier Show Hits the Road

TWENTY-THREE soldiers are on the road for "One," the 2001 U.S. Army Soldier Show.

The show, which runs through Nov. 19, will give 107 performances at 52 locations in the United States and Korea.

The Soldier Show is an 80-minute live musical review showcasing the talents of active-duty soldiers. The show traces its history to World War I soldier productions by SGT Israel Beilin, who is better known as Irving Berlin.

Performance schedules and information about other Army morale, welfare and recreation entertainment programs are available at www.armyentertainment.net. — Community and Family Support Center PAO

Fort Belvoir, Va.

August Hot Topics Is About Risk Management

EIGHTY-SEVEN soldiers died during the first half of fiscal year

2001, in fatalities ranging from aircraft crashes and carbon-monoxide poisoning to privately owned vehicle accidents. These deaths might have been prevented had leaders practiced risk management — the process of identifying, assessing and controlling the hazards that endanger people, equipment and missions.

The Summer 2001 **Hot Topics**, entitled "Risk Management: Lives in Leaders' Hands," will explain how leaders can protect the lives and equipment under their care by planning safety into each stage of mission accomplishment. The Hot Topics insert, which appears in the August **Soldiers**, will feature an outline of the five-step risk management process, safety standards, a profile of safety-conscious leaders, a pullout commander's checklist and guidelines for preventing privately owned vehicle accidents.

Army Field Manual 100-14, "Risk Management," dictates that every leader and commander is responsible for guarding soldiers from unnecessary risks.

According to COL John

Warren, U.S. Army Safety Center deputy commander, leaders are good at identifying risks but fail to establish controls that eliminate or decrease those risks to a level at which benefits outweigh potential costs. Sol-

diers also forget that once control measures are implemented and new standards are enforced, the risk management process begins all over again with identifying new or changing hazards.

Pay Issues

Allowance to Help Fill Some Pantries

SOME junior-enlisted families struggling to keep food on the table can apply for a new allowance.

Troops who would otherwise qualify for food stamps — and some who wouldn't — can now apply for the armed forces' new Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance.

The first payments of up to \$500 were made June 1.

Congress provided for the allowance in the fiscal 2001 National Defense Authorization Act to reduce the number of service members receiving U.S. Department of Agriculture food stamps, DOD officials said.

"It is intended to remove a household's eligibility from the food-stamp program," said Coast Guard Cmdr. Kevin Harkins, a DOD assistant director of compensation at the Pentagon.

DOD officials estimate roughly 5,000 service members receive food stamps. Officials think perhaps 1,000 more people will be eligible for FSSA because the DOD program is available to military members serving overseas, while food stamps are not.

The two criteria used to establish FSSA eligibility are household size and total household income.

There are circumstances in which a service member could qualify for both the new allowance and food stamps. FSSA is limited to \$500 per month. "If their food stamp benefit were greater than that, they could still receive the difference in food stamps," Harkins said.

However, individuals receiving FSSA are required to list the payment amount as income when subsequently applying for food stamps, Harkins said.

The new program uses USDA's gross income limit to determine eligibility, with one major difference. Both housing allowances and the estimated value of on-base housing count as income for the FSSA; only housing allowances are considered for food stamps, Harkins explained.

"Someone living on base may be denied FSSA but still qualify for the USDA food-stamp program," Harkins said.

He recommended that interested individuals check with their chains of command to determine how and where to apply on their home installations.

For more information on the FSSA, visit the program's home page at www.dmdc.osd.mil/fssa. — American Forces Press Service

Safety Center research indicates that 80 percent of Army accidents — on the battlefield and off — involve human error. Soldiers in the grades of E-1 through E-4 often induce greater risk by underestimating hazards or overestimating personal ability. Warren added that young soldiers also have the most POV accidents. In fiscal year 2000, 111 soldiers died in off-duty POV accidents.

"No excuse is good enough when telling a wife, husband, mother or father that a loved one has died or been injured in an accident," said BG Gene M. LaCoste, Safety Center director. "If you think making time to talk about safety is wasted effort, think about facing a victim's family."

Although fatality and accident rates dropped in ground and aviation operations in FY 2000, Warren said that safety is fragile and commanders must continually emphasize safety so

soldiers don't grow complacent. — *Beth Reece*

Fort Benning, Ga.

Infantry MOSs Combine for Future Force

THE Infantry is scheduled to consolidate MOSs 11H and 11M into 11B at skill levels 1 through 4 on July 31. Also, at skill level 5, MOSs 11B, 11C, 11H and 11M will be recoded 11Z.

"This consolidation will be the first step toward capturing and 'synergizing' the best qualities of all our infantry forces in the field and molding one great capability," said MG John M. LeMoyne, U.S. Army Infantry Center commander.

A new program of instruction, the Bradley Transition Course, will train all sergeants and staff sergeants who are en route to mechanized units from the light infantry in three weeks

of turret-related skills and safety practices. Sergeants first class and master sergeants new to the mechanized infantry will attend the six-week Bradley Leader's Course.

Another new course, the Antiarmor Leaders Course, will train sergeants through sergeants first class who are new to antiarmor assignments.

Finally, the Infantry Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course and Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course will cross-train NCOs on a variety of tasks across the infantry spectrum.

Cross assignments, light to mechanized or mechanized to light, for sergeants will be based on the Army's needs. At the staff sergeant and sergeant first class levels, cross assignments will initially be voluntary. NCOs, after attending training, will arrive in the units prepared to lead and train, LeMoyne said. — *U.S. Army Infantry School PAO*

play during the 25th Anniversary International Convention of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association to be held here July 18 to 21.

Displays will line A Avenue from the U.S. Army Quartermaster Museum east to the Post Fieldhouse. Living history displays will lead to a 15-acre swap-meet area. Restored historic military vehicles will range from bicycles to heavy armor.

On July 19 actors will portray President Franklin D. Roosevelt and GEN George S. Patton Jr. to discuss military affairs before the Fort Lee Army Band's concert and retreat.

A parade starting at the U.S. Army Quartermaster Museum and going down A Avenue will begin at 10 a.m. on July 21.

In addition to association members' vehicles, the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps, U.S. Army Reserve, Virginia National Guard and several defense contractors will provide equipment displays.

The convention site is open to the public 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. A donation of \$5 per person over 12 is requested and tickets are available at the association's tent located on the corner of 19th Street and A Avenue. — *Fort Lee PAO*

Reunion News

Fort Benjamin Harrison Reunion Scheduled

SOLDIERS and civilians who were assigned to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., are invited to a reunion being planned for Aug. 11.

Fort Benjamin Harrison opened in 1903 and until its 1995 closure was responsible for training as many as 26,000 soldiers and civilians each year at such schools as the Adjutant General, Finance, Recruiting and Retention, and Defense Information Schools, in addition to its Noncommissioned Officers Academy.

The reunion — at the Knights of Columbus, 4332 N. German Church Road, Indianapolis — will run from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. It will include a catered picnic and athletic events.

Register by sending a check for \$10 per person (age 3 and up) to Deb Meadors, 3106 N. Huber St., Indianapolis, IN 46226-6319. Include your address, phone number and e-mail address with your check.

For further information phone Deb Meadors at (317) 510-5360; Diana Fowler at (317) 510-2325; Linda Wells at (317) 510-5543; or Linda Mohr at (317) 510-2269. — *Army Public Affairs*

Fort Lee, Va.

Historic Military Vehicles on Display

HUNDREDS of privately owned military vehicles will be on display



This Jeep is one of the military vehicles that will be on display at Fort Lee, Va., in July.